

By Senator Aronberg

27-1716-05

1                                 Senate Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_  
2                 A resolution recognizing March 2005 as "Colon  
3                 Cancer Awareness Month."  
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5                 WHEREAS, colon cancer is one of the most prevalent yet,  
6                 in most cases, preventable cancers, and  
7                 WHEREAS, among cancer cases in this state, colon cancer  
8                 is the second most common cause of cancer death among men and  
9                 women, and  
10                 WHEREAS, it is possible to have colon or rectal cancer  
11                 without any symptoms, and  
12                 WHEREAS, the Florida Division of the American Cancer  
13                 Society estimates that approximately 10,000 new cases of colon  
14                 cancer will be diagnosed among Floridians during the year  
15                 2005, and  
16                 WHEREAS, the Florida Division of the American Cancer  
17                 Society estimates that during the year 2005, the number of  
18                 cancer deaths due to colon cancer among persons in this state  
19                 will be approximately 4,000, and  
20                 WHEREAS, the risk for colon cancer is highest among  
21                 older adults, with more than 90 percent of all colon and  
22                 rectal cancers diagnosed in adults 50 years of age or older,  
23                 and  
24                 WHEREAS, Floridians can significantly lower the number  
25                 of incidents of colon cancer and deaths from this disease by  
26                 complying with the American Cancer Society colon and rectal  
27                 cancer screening guidelines, which include beginning testing  
28                 at 50 years of age, and  
29                 WHEREAS, approximately 49 percent of persons in this  
30                 state 50 years of age or older have never received a  
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1 sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy exam, two of the screening exams  
2 recommended by the American Cancer Society, and

3           WHEREAS, regular screening may lower death rates by  
4 detecting the disease at its earliest and most treatable  
5 stages, and may also prevent some cancers by detecting and  
6 removing polyps, NOW, THEREFORE,

7  
8 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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10           That the Florida Senate recognizes the month of March  
11 2005 as "Colon Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida and that all  
12 men and women in this state are encouraged to understand the  
13 risks associated with colon cancer, to take preventive steps  
14 to minimize those risks, and to undergo early-detection  
15 procedures such as colonoscopy in compliance with the American  
16 Cancer Society's recommended colon cancer screening  
17 guidelines.